

Message Text

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60

ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 COME-00 SS-15 FEA-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 FMC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 CG-00

OFA-01 DLOS-03 NSC-05 INT-05 /067 R

DRAFTED BY EB/TT/MA:REJOHE:EW

APPROVED BY EB/TT/MA:RKBANK

MARAD:BKYLE

NEA/ARP:GQLUMSDEN

E:DWOOD

S/S-JPMOFFAT

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P R 282302Z MAR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 071290

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EWWT, PFOR, ENRG, KU, US

SUBJECT:GULF OIL COMPANY CHARTER OF KUWAIT OIL TANKERS
COMPANY VESSEL

REF: A) STATE 65441; B) KUWAIT 1347

1. NEGOTIATIONS/CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN MARAD/GULF REPRESENTATIVES REFERENCED PARA. 2 REF A AND NOTED IN PARA 2 REF B CONTINUE. GULF ADVISES THAT PRESENT STATUS IS THAT THE RESTRICTIONS POSED BY MARAD ON THE FINAL SALE OF THE VESSEL TO KUWAIT HAVE NOT BEEN RESOLVED BETWEEN KUWAIT AND GULF OFFICIALS ALTHOUGH NEGOTIATIONS HAVE BEEN GOING ON SINCE 1968 OVER THE PROVISIONS OF THE FINAL SALES AGREEMENT. VESSEL SEA TRIALS EXPECTED IN THREE WEEKS AND TARGET DATE FOR DELIVERY NOW SET FOR 1 MAY 75.

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2. DEPTOFF IN CONSULTATION WITH THE EXECUTIVE VP, GULF OIL TRADING CO. (MR- BLACKLEDGE) ARRIVED AT THE FOLLOWING INTERIM PLAN: BLACKLEDGE WILL CONTACT (MARCH 27) MR. JAMES STRAND, WHO IS MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE KUWAIT OIL CO. AND WHO HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN ALL THE NEGOTIATIONS SO FAR. STRAND IS BEING DIRECTED TO CONTACT THE EMBASSY TO DISCUSS THE ENTIRE MATTER. FYI. BLACKLEDGE INDICATED A BUSINESS AS USUAL ATTITUDE IN RE THE ENTIRE MATTER.

IN SEPARATE CONVERSATION, MARAD PROGRAM OFFICER ALSO REPORTS SIMILAR EVALUATION OF BLACKLEDGE'S ATTITUDE. MARAD HAS EXCELLENT COMMUNICATIONS WITH GULF AND IS PREPARED TO CONTINUE DIALOGUE, BUT AT THIS TIME IT APPEARS THAT THE INITIATIVE MUST REST WITH GULF. END FYI.

3. REQUEST DEPT BE KEPT INFORMED OF THE RESULTS OF THE STRAND-EMBASSY MEETING PLUS ANY OTHER DEVELOPMENTS. KISSINGER

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To: KUWAIT
Type: TE
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